

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims, including those in the First Preliminary Amendment, in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A method of performing direct current pressurized sintering to powder in a mold having a cylindrical molding space, ~~wherein, upon~~ comprising the steps of continuously effecting sintering while relatively moving a current portion and a sintering subject, pressurizing ~~the~~ sintering powder material disposed in the cylindrical ~~mold~~ molding space ~~is pressurized from the an~~ end of the mold, and disposing an electrode movable in the lengthwise direction of said mold ~~is disposed~~ around the mold, and said sintering ~~is~~ step being effected by electrifying and heating the sintering powder material.

Claim 2 (currently amended): A method of performing direct current pressure sintering to powder in a mold having a cylindrical molding space, ~~wherein, upon~~ comprising the steps of continuously effecting sintering while relatively moving a current portion and a sintering subject, and providing an electrode connection terminal assembly affixed to ~~the a~~ periphery of the mold and having a space portion capable of moving freely on a single axis ~~is provided, and said~~ sintering ~~is~~ step being effected by the connection terminal assembly moving the current portion.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A method of performing direct current pressure sintering to powder in a mold having a cylindrical molding space, wherein sintering is

continuously effected while relatively moving a current portion and a sintering subject, and a material with an uneven cross section is sintered while setting ~~the~~ a heating area.

Claims 4-8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (currently amended): A sintering device for performing direct current pressurized sintering to powder in a mold having a cylindrical molding space while relatively moving a current portion and a sintering subject, comprising an elevation ram capable of position control and which successively moves the mold and sintering subject, wherein a material with an uneven cross section is sintered while setting ~~the~~ a heating area.

Claim 10 (currently amended): A sintering device according to claim 9, further comprising a pressurizing ram capable of load control and which pressurizes the ~~sintering powder material~~ disposed in the cylindrical ~~mold~~ molding space from one end of the mold.

Claims 11-14 (canceled).

Claim 15 (new): A method according to claim 1, wherein an electrode connection terminal assembly affixed to a periphery of the mold and having a space portion capable of moving freely on a single axis is provided, and wherein sintering is effected by the connection terminal assembly moving the current portion.

Claim 16 (new): A method according to claim 1, wherein the sintering powder material is pressurized from both ends of the mold.

Claim 17 (new): A method according to claim 1, wherein the sintering powder material is sintered in one direction.

Claim 18 (new): A method according to claim 1, wherein a long sintering powder material is sintered.

Claim 19 (new): A method according to claim 2, wherein the powder is pressurized from both ends of the mold.

Claim 20 (new): A method according to claim 2, wherein the powder is sintered in one direction.

Claim 21 (new): A method according to claim 2, wherein a long powder is sintered.

Claim 22 (new): A method according to claim 3, wherein an electrode connection terminal assembly affixed to a periphery of the mold and having a space portion capable of moving freely on a single axis is provided, and wherein sintering is effected by the connection terminal assembly moving the current portion.

Claim 23 (new): A method according to claim 3, wherein the powder is pressurized from both ends of the mold.

Claim 24 (new): A method according to claim 3, wherein the powder is sintered in one direction.

Claim 25 (new): A method according to claim 3, wherein a long powder material is sintered.

Claim 26 (new): A sintering device according to claim 9, further comprising an electrode ram for pressing current electrodes disposed around the mold.

Claim 27 (new): A sintering device according to claim 26, wherein said electrode ram presses said current electrodes via a current plate.

Claim 28 (new): A sintering device according to claim 9, wherein the device sinters the material in one direction.

Claim 29 (new): A sintering device according to claim 9, wherein a long sintering powder material is sintered.